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READ KID
E.E. J.M. A.M.
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SUPER HEROES FROM THE MIND OF

CLIVE BARKER

UNDER
THE
GUN!

HYPERKIND™

PARAGON JOHN
SAYS THERE
ARE NO HEROES,
BOYS!

LET'S
MAKE IT
SO!

DIRECT EDITION

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PARTS
FIFTEEN
95

OBI

ONCE, LONG AGO, SUPER HEROES WERE REAL. NOW, THE POWER IS REBORN INTO FOUR PRODUCTS OF THE GRIT AND GLITZ OF HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD: A JOCK, A RICH GIRL, A DRUG ADDICT, AND A CHILD OF THE STREETS. THEY WILL BECOME THE HEROES OF A NEW GENERATION — IF THEY CAN SURVIVE.

HIS NAME IS JOHN DOORE,
BUT HIS ENEMIES CALL HIM
PARAGON JOHN.

HE KNOWS A LOT ABOUT
ENEMIES—PARTICULARLY
THE ONES ON-SCREEN
BEHIND HIM—THEIR MAKK
AND THE TWO NEO-PAKIS.

THE NAMES OF THE
YOUNG HEROES ARE
UNKNOWN—BUT
THEIR ENEMIES ARE
ALL TOO HORRIBLY
FAMILIAR TO HIM.

THREE DECADES AGO,
PARAGON JOHN DESTROYED
THEIR PREDECESSORS, THE
PAKIS, AND HE HAS SPENT
THE INTERVENING YEARS
WIPING OUT THE VERY
MEMORY OF THEIR
EXISTENCE.

HE WILL
NOT LET
SO MUCH
EFFORT
BE IN
VAIN.

MISS
ARBUCK, I
AM AFRAID THAT
YOU HAVE MADE
A TERRIBLE
MISTAKE...

PARAGONS YEARAGON

CREATED BY CLIVE BARKER

story
FRED
BURKE

pencils
PAKIS
GULLINS

inks
HAMILTON, RIGGS
& PETRECCA

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HYPERKIND™ Vol. 1, No. 4, December, 1993. Published monthly by MARVEL COMICS, Terry Stewart, President, Stan Lee, Publisher, Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Application to mail at second class rates is pending in New York, NY and at additional mailing offices. Published monthly. All HYPERKIND material copyright © 1993 Clive Barker. All rights reserved. Price \$1.75 per copy in the U.S. and \$2.25 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: \$21.00 U.S.; \$33.00 foreign; and Canadian subscribers must add \$6.00 for postage and GST. GST #R127032652. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. HYPERKIND, THE NEXT PAKIS (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of CLIVE BARKER. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO HYPERKIND, THE NEXT PAKIS, c/o MARVEL COMICS, SUBSCRIPTION DEPT., 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Printed in Canada.



... THIS FOOTAGE YOU BROADCAST THIS MORNING ON KPRO IS... UNACCEPTABLE. COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE.

YOU ARE NEW TO THE STATION, NEW TO MY CORPORATION, AND IT MAY SURPRISE YOU JUST HOW INVOLVED I AM IN THE DAY-TO-DAY GOINGS-ON AROUND HERE.



... THIS TIME. IF IN THE FUTURE, HOWEVER, YOU PUT IMAGES OF SUPER-POWERED BEINGS ON MY AIRWAVES, I WILL NOT BE SO LENIENT. AM I UNDERSTOOD?

BUT MR. DOORE SIR-- THIS IS NEWS! A BATTLE BETWEEN SUCH BEINGS...

... NO ONE EVEN KNOWS IF THEY'RE FROM EARTH!



NO SIR. OF COURSE NOT. GOOD DAY.

NOW GENTLEMEN, WE HAVE A SITUATION FOR THE PARA-CORPS TO HANDLE.

IF THESE... CREATURES... RETURN, THEY WILL NOT ESCAPE.

I'LL SEE TO THAT.

THOSE CREATURES MADE MY LIFE A LIVING TORTURE!

GAAK!

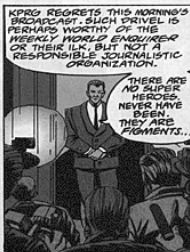
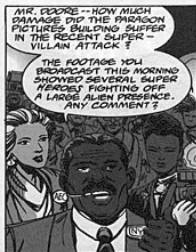
THOSE CREATURES SAVED OUR BUTTS FROM THAT JURASSIC PARK REJECT!

HMM. THAT IS TO SAY, THEIR STUNT WRECKLESSLY ENDANGERED LIVES AND PROPERTY. MY ENEMIES ARE YOUR ENEMIES-- DO YOU UNDERSTAND? THAT IS WHAT IT MEANS TO BE PARACORPS!

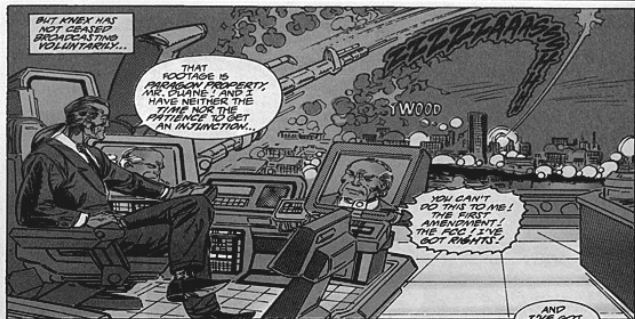
KRAMER! SEE TO IT THAT THE REST OF THESE "MEN" UNDERSTAND WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST!

YES SIR. I ASSUME THAT THE EMERGENCY V GEAR WILL BE REQUIRED?

YES, AND ALL THE FIREPOWER WE CAN MUSTER. NOW IT'S TIME TO FACE THE FALL-OUT.









"... AND MAYBE STARTED SOMETHING THAT'S TURNED INTO A WHOLE LOT MORE!"

DO YOU THINK THIS IS ALL A DELUSION, OR WILL SOME-THINGS RESPOND TO PARAGON CEO JOHN POORE'S CHALLENGE, AND COME TO KIPS FOR AN INTERVIEW?

STRANGER THINGS HAVE HAPPENED EH, CARLOS?

WE?

MAYBE PARAGON PICTURES COULD DO A MOVIE--CALL IT 'HYPERKIND OR SOMETHIN'! WE'D LOVE THAT!

WH, YEAH-- WE COMICS FANS, I MEAN!

WM, I THINK IT'S TIME FOR ME TO GO...

I THINK SO TOO, GEORGE! YOU ALMOST BLEW ALL OUR SECRETS!

THERMACK MAY HAVE BEEN RIGHT, DYAN-- I THINK WE'RE IN OVER OUR HEADS.

OH, KENNY-- WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?!

ABOUT JOHN POORE'S CHALLENGE-- OR ABOUT US...?

I DON'T THINK THERE SHOULD BE ANY US... YOU DESERVE A NICE GIRL...

...LIKE LISA...

YOU LET ME WORRY ABOUT WHAT I DESERVE, DYAN. I DON'T CARE WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU IN THE PAST--HOW YOU'VE HAD TO EARN A LIVING...

...BUT WITH THE POWER WE'VE GAINED AS HYPERKIND, WE GOT A CHANCE AT A NEW FUTURE.

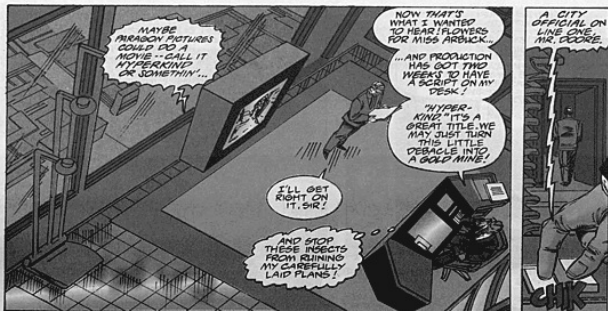
AND WHO KNOWS, MAYBE I'LL GET TO WORRY A LITTLE ABOUT WHAT YOU DESERVE, TOO...

...BUT FOR NOW, WE'D BETTER MEET WITH THE OTHERS. WE'VE GOT A LOT TO TALK ABOUT!

QUIETLY, THEY EXCHANGE THE STRANGE QKD KEYS WHICH HAVE ALTERED THEIR LIVES FOREVER...

I'LL DO YOURS IF YOU DO MINE...





SIR, THIS GAS FORMULA-- I DON'T SEE HOW IT CAN BE USED TO CAMOUFLAGE YOUR ACTIONS. THE SMOKE ISN'T DENSE ENOUGH AND THIS FORMULA MAY CONTAIN SOME KIND OF MIND-CONTROL DRUG!

I'M SORRY THAT YOU DON'T LIKE IT...

...EVEN SORRIER THAT YOU FELT OBLIGED TO ANALYZE MY FORMULA...

...BUT THEN I ENCOURAGE INITIATIVE...

--SUCH AS THAT DISPLAYED BY THE INVENTOR OF THIS GASE! IT ALTERS THE PULL OF THE EARTH'S GRAVITY ON IT, VARYING ITS OWN WEIGHT FROM TEN POUNDS--

...TO OVER TWO HUNDRED!

OH MY LORD!

AS FOR THE GAS, THAT WAS AN INNOVATION OF MY OWN DESIGN-- CREATING THE ZONA WHICH CAN REMOVE INDEPENDENT THOUGHT FROM OTHER LIVING CREATURES!

I DESTROYED THE THING ONCE-- AND I WILL NOT SEE THAT VICTORY TARNISHED!

FSSSHHH



WITH HIS MEN OUT COLD, ARABAGON JOHN DISPOSES OF THE EVIDENCE...

...RETURNING TO FIND THE SLATE WIPED CLEAN!

I THINK MY NEW WEAPONS WILL SERVE ME WELL TODAY!

POSITIONS, MEN!

WE'VE A RECEPTION COMMITTEE TO PREPARE...

IN THE PAXIS LABORATORY,
HIDDEN BENEATH HOLLYWOOD'S
ABANDONED HELIOPOLIS
CINEMA...

I DON'T CARE IF IT'S
LOGICAL OR NOT!
ESCHBACHER GAVE
ME THESE POWERS,
AND I SAY WE
ANSWER MR. PAXIS'S
CHALLENGE!

THE WHOLE REASON
WE TOOK AND KEPT
THESE POWERS WAS TO
BRING HEROES BACK
TO EARTH. WE HAVE
TO PROVE OUR-
SELVES...

BUT THAT FETUS-
THINGY WE FOUGHT
HEADED STRAIGHT
FOR THE PARAGON
BUILDING--

...OUR NEW HEROES
REVISIT THE SITE
OF THEIR
TRANSFORMATION!

--HOMING
PIEON
STYLE--

...THAT
PARAGON
JOHN GUY JEARES
ME...SOMEBOW,
HE'S RESPONSIBLE!

BUSS'S RIGHT!
REMEMBER, THEY
TOLD YOU THE
PAXIS WAS JUST A
MOVIE
SERIAL...

IT'S A TRAP! THE
COMPUTER VIRUS
THAT WIPES OUT
ANY MENTION OF
PAXIS LED ME ON
A DANGEROUS
CHASE RIGHT TO
THE PARAGON
HISTORICAL TRUST!

SO NOW HE
CHALLENGES US
TO PROVE OUR
EXISTENCE WHEN
HE'S JUST SHOWN
US ON THE MORNING
NEWS?

IT'S CLEARLY
A TRAP--

--AND YOU'RE
NOT FIT TO
MAKE THESE
KINDS OF
DECISIONS.

MY POWER
MAKES ME
THE SMART
CHOICE TO
LEAD US,
LISA...

I'M
ARMATA
NOW--
GET IT?

IF YOU
CAN'T EVEN HANDLE
USING CODE NAMES,
LOGIX, THEN YOU
SHOULD GIVE UP
YOUR POWER NOW
AND GO BACK TO
BEING A FO-
NOTHING...

BLOP

WELL I GUESS
GOD JUST DIED
AND LEFT YOU
QUEEN, EH, HOT-
SHOT?

Y'KNOW,
BUSS--IF YOU
EVER WANT TO
TRADE POWERS,
YOU JUST
LET ME KNOW!



FOR NOW,
THOUGH--
JUST SHUT
UP AND
LISTEN!

BLISS, DROP THE
ILLUSION FAST, OR
THE FEEDBACK
WILL--

I MAY NOT BE
UP TO WINNING ANY
JUDGMENT OF PARIS, BUT
OL' GEORGE HAS YOU ALL BEAT
ON STREETSMARTS.

I THINK THE BEAST
SHOULD BE CROWNED
PAXIS LEADER...

...AND THE FIRST
THING I'D DO IS
FIND SOMEONE
FOR THIS FIETH
POWER--

--BEFORE
THERMAK
COMES
BACK TO
TAKE IT!

WELL, IF LOGIX
HADN'T BROKEN
THE GRID COMPUTER,
I'D TAKE THE POWER
MYSELF!

AS IT IS, THE SARCOPHAGAI RE-
BUILT US FROM SCRATCH, LAST
TIME. ANOTHER RUN-THROUGH,
WITHOUT THE COMPUTER, WE
MIGHT NOT BE SO LUCKY.
FOR NOW, REGARDLESS OF WHO'S
THE LEADER, WE'VE GOT TO
MAKE OUR NEXT MOVE, AND
WE'VE GOT TO MAKE IT TOGETHER!

VERY
FASHIONABLE.

MY PARENTS
HADN'T EVEN HEARD
OF PAXIS, AND MY LIT-
TLE BROTHER HAS A
VIDEO GAME IN WHICH
THE PAXIS ARE KILLERS!

WHY,
THAT'S
HORRIBLE!

WE HAVE TO
SHOW THEM THAT
WE'RE NOT LIKE
THAT! C'MON,
KENNY--I MEAN
LOGIX!

SO AMOKK... I
GUESS YOU WANT
TO WALK INTO THE
TRAP, TOO?

YOU BET,
DUDE--NOBODY
QUESTIONS MY
EXISTENCE AND
GETS AWAY WITH
IT!





FLACK
IS THE LEAST
OF YOUR
WORRIES,
CHILDREN!

THESE
ARE THE
PHACORPS--

--AND
THEY'VE BEEN
ANXIOUS TO
MEET YOU!

UH-OH--
LOOKS LIKE
WE'VE STUMBLER
INTO THE
BLIND FATE
FROM HECK!









PUT THESE
ON QUICK!

BLISS---MAYBE YOU CAN
MAKE DUPLICATES
OF THE REST OF US...
SOMEHOW EVEN THE
ODDS!



AMOKK--

I CAN
HANDLE
MYSELF,
MAN!



I DON'T
NEED YOU
TO THINK
FOR ME!

BLAM

BLAM



FWOOP

BLAM

BLAM



FSHTHHHHH

SOME
KINDA
GAS...

WHUP



...P-POPPIES...

NO! DON'T
BREATHE IT!

JOOM





SHE MAY NOT BE FOR LONG. AND AS JOHN'S TANK CLOSES IN ON ARIMATA, BESS FEELS BACK IN PAIN...

--THE ONSLAUGHT AGAINST HER DREAMSTUFF DOUBLES, SENDING AN AWOOF OF PSYCHIC FEEDBACK COURSEING THROUGH HER!







...THERE
IS ONLY...

...PARAGON
JOHN!

NEXT ISSUE:

THE TRUTH BEHIND
THE MISSING HISTORY OF
PAXIS IS REVEALED!
BE HERE FOR
UNDER PRESSURE!

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HYPERKIND

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San Francisco, CA 94131

the hard line

It's almost an unspoken law in comics that the better a project is, inevitably, the longer it will take to complete. It's more a curse than a law, really. But by that law, the RAZORLINE imprint, as a quality-driven line, should be almost impossible to achieve, and more difficult to maintain.

Okay, so it is difficult. But we wouldn't be doing it if it wasn't. So far on this line we've dealt with more miniature crises than most Middle Eastern countries, and still managed to turn out a product we're overwhelmingly proud of.

And by my response, it's paying off. Issues with this imprint are among the most difficult to find, across the country. But because the space left by a sold-out Razorline comic isn't empty for long, this fact is slow to be realized by some retailers. (Special thanks to those of you who have let them know.)

the great change

At a speech by Andrew Lloyd Webber, the master playwright and songwriter gave a bit of invaluable advice.

"Change something," he said. "We deal with more things on this line because we dare to say, 'This is how it's been done; let's change it. Let's learn, and do it better.' In this spirit, we'll experiment from time to time. Sometimes those experiments will be spectacular successes, and sometimes they'll be spectacular failures — but they'll always be spectacular. Let us know what you think."

The fax machine has been buzzing since our first issue hit the stands —

that is, before the issue vanished in two days flat. You lucky folks who grabbed the first printing of #1 have got a double-bag item on hand... and we appreciate your enthusiasm and your fan mail.

Speaking of which, the aforementioned fax is the Hyperkind creative team's main method of sharing your comments. From our editor Marc McLauren (who reads every word), your fan mail is faxed to the Los Angeles offices of the Barkerverse Godhead, Clive Barker. After Clive reads it, it's passed on to our consulting editor, Malcolm Smith, who calls me at home. "More fan mail, Fred," he says. "What'll you give me for it?"

"I'll type up the letter column."

So here I am. Now let's check out why...

Barkerverse Boys.

All right, I admit it. I wasn't going to buy this book. Sure, Clive Barker writes tremendous novels and his movies are bizarre masterpieces, but comic books are a whole different thing. But as fate would have it, I had some extra cash and the

enhanced cover to Hyperkind #1 really caught my eye (sometimes those fancy covers do work). So I took a chance. Boy, did it pay off!

I love the mystique this book exudes. Where did the power come from and why does Thermak want it back so desperately? How did Eschbacher get the power in the first place? What happened to the original Paxils and why doesn't anybody remember them? I can't wait for these questions to be answered. I can tell the Hyperkind has a rich history to be told, and Clive Barker and Fred Burke are just the twisted individuals to do it.

As to the Neo-Paxils, they are visually stunning. Paris Cullins and Bob Petrecca are explosive together. Hyperkind has a very Barkeresque look to it (no small compliment). Lisa, Kenny, George, and Dyan aren't your average teen super team.

Overall, Hyperkind reads like mythology in the making. Needless to say, I'm into this book for the long haul — it's that good already.

Don Massi

590 Lower Landing Rd. #213
Blackwood, NJ 08012

We're glad to have you here, Don, for what will be a very long haul, indeed! We've got enough stories to fill Razorline books into the 21st Century — and beyond! Of course, the Barkerverse isn't just "boys," with some of our strongest talent (and greatest characters) being "girls." Now if only some of our female fans will drop us a line!

Slowly but surely in the months ahead, we'll be answering the questions you posed (some in our very next issue, in fact). But we'll always be introducing new mysteries about our Paxils, their powers, and their pasts. And if you're feeling lost in the Decamundi, don't worry! It looks like all our Razorline books will be crossing over around issues #10 and #11. One of our heroes is bound to find you — if some villain doesn't capture you first!

Dear Razorline,

I just finished reading Ectokid and Hyperkind, then I spent another twenty minutes staring into those dynamic covers. I have to say, it blew my mind. I'm hooked, and it didn't take Pinhead to do it. Looks like you have yet another megahit for Marvel. I'm eagerly awaiting the release of Saint Sinner and Hukom & Hex.

Now for a few comments: keep Steve Skroce at all costs — this guy is great. Paris (Cullins) seems to be a Jim Lee study, and I like his stuff, too. The stories are moving along at just the right speed. I also appreciate the high quality paper and cover (of course!).

The only negative thing was the short versions of the other Razorline titles at the end of each book. Couldn't you have just given us a little more? Well, thank you for a great new line-up. Keep up the good work!

Eric C. Graham

Nice to have a letter from my old stomping grounds, Eric. I'm glad to hear the California contingent has chosen our first issue covers for new mind-expanding rituals. If there's anyone out there who hasn't sampled Steve Skroce and Bob Dvorka's dynamic work on Ectokid — what's taking you so long? This month, Dex gains a new scribe, Larry Wachowski, whose evocative handling of the Hellraiser mythos bodes well for the Ectosphere.

Marvel has a new Pinhead series debuting this month for mature audiences, plus the code-approved hair-raising adventures of the Marrowers (a great new title written by the aforementioned Malcolm Smith. Will you please send me more fan mail now, thank you!). We hope you'll stay hooked to the Barkerverse titles — these new Hellraiser books included. (Read that last sentence carefully, continuity-buffs. It says a mouthful!)

Keep our fax machines humming, fandom... we're really out here listening! And if you haven't already discovered the madcap, cosmos-spanning action of Hukom & Hex, then get started pronto — Trip Monroe will be meeting the Hyperkind sooner than you might imagine!

— Fred Burke



NEXT:

The power of Paragon John! Plus, the most-asked Razorline question of the decade is answered (sort of) as we reveal the status of the fifth power!

CUTTING EDGE ALERT!

Next week in ECTOKID #4:

Dex asks himself "Are the brothers my keeper?" as he comes face to face with the Brothers Augustine — with his mother's life at stake! This issue we reveal Dex's amazing new power!

ELSEWHERE, ALONG THE RAZOR'S EDGE:

HUKOM & HEX #4:

Earth's champion is thrown in jail! And when the greatest hero of a bygone age turns up to the rescue, Trip Monroe will find himself freed, whether he wants it or not! Don miss the tragic return of the Incredible Z-Man!

SAINT SINNER #4:

Called tragically back to Earth on unfinished business, the Saint Sinner is confronted by an undying evil loose in the Hudson river and on a Madison Avenue gone amok!